

Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture

March 22nd, 2023 Hearing Background

Senator Mike McGuire, Chair of the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (JCFA), and Assemblymember Dawn Addis, Vice Chair, are hosting Change is in the Wind; The Future of Fisheries and Offshore Wind Energy in the Golden State. The hearing will be held Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 p.m., at the State Capitol, Room 112.

The hearing will allow our legislators, staff, and the public to learn more about California's developing offshore wind energy industry from agencies and industry-leading experts. The JCFA will also hear testimony from environmental and fisheries leaders about their perspectives and concerns. The presenters will emphasize the need to incorporate fish and wildlife needs during the development process. The hearing will be live-streamed and recorded.

Presentations and discussion will focus on why wind energy is essential to the State's energy supply, how to mitigate potential environmental impacts on land and sea, balancing the need for green energy while protecting our environment, and how wind energy and protecting California's fisheries can be compatible.

The agenda features presentations by state and federal agencies, wind energy industry representatives, environmental advocates, and fishing industry representatives.

Testimony will be provided by representatives of the Bureau of Energy Management, the California Energy Commission, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Coastal Commission, RWE Renewables, Equinor, and Offshore Wind California.

The hearing will also include testimony from the Audubon Society, the Environmental Defense Center, Defenders of Wildlife, the Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association, and the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance.

For more information, please contact Tim Scully, Assistant Consultant, Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture information.

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